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PATENT  
450100-02015

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) : Chikako SANO      Notice of Allowance  
Dated: 12/01/2004  
Confirmation No. 9838

Serial No. : 09/379,072 ✓

For : IMAGE DATA PROCESSING METHOD, IMAGE DATA  
PROCESSING APPARATUS AND DIGITAL STILL  
CAMERA

Filed : August 23, 1999

Examiner : Brian C. Genco

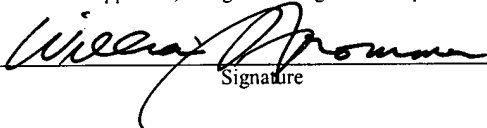
Art Unit : 2615

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Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 11, 2005

William S. Frommer, Reg. No. 25,506

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

January 11, 2005

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Signature

**RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which  
accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed December 1, 2004. To the extent the Examiner's  
Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are

allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicant's attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicant's contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicant of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicant, by his attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP  
Attorneys for Applicant

By   
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